

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club WIRELESS



President's Corner

—By Robert KA5WSS

We will not be having a normal general meeting this month. Instead, your VOMARC Picnic will take place on **Sunday, September 17th** at [Sugarloaf Ridge State Park](#). We'll be setting up at 1:00 PM and expect to start eating around 2:00 PM.

Our meeting spot will be the group camping/picnic area adjacent to the park's observatory. There are plenty of picnic tables there and a large grill on which we will be cooking hamburgers and hotdogs. Please bring some drinks and/or some sides or desserts to share with others.



Be sure to RSVP on the event spreadsheet (included one or more recent emails sent out to

members) or send us a note and we'll get you added.

An added benefit to holding the picnic in the park is we can do the first ever club activation of a park as part of the [Parks on the Air](#) (POTA) program. We'll set up a small HF station and try to make as many contacts as possible. The event spreadsheet mentioned earlier includes an equipment list. Please fill in what you can contribute. W6AJF still needs to confirm Delaware for [Worked All States](#)!

VOMARC will soon be using a new system to



maintain our club roster. [HamClubOnline](#) (HCOL) is a free system (donations accepted) created by Hams specifically for Ham clubs. It will automate and streamline many of

our tasks to get members signed up to the club and their memberships renewed.

Don't be surprised to see some emails from HCOL on behalf of the club as your renewal date comes up. We also plan to send out newsletters and announcements through the system. We'll let you know when things are finalized.

We hope to see all of you in the park and on the air on Sunday, September 17th!

NEXT MEETING

Sun, September 17, 2023

See President's Corner for details.

Topic: **Club Picnic**

VE Liaison News

—By Elizabeth N6LY

Our latest test session was on July 29th. We had four candidates test -1 new technician, 2 upgrades to General.

Congratulations to our newest members

Time to Upgrade? Know anyone interested in joining the hobby and ready to get licensed?

Our next test session is on Saturday, October 28.

This will be our last session for 2023.

Our first session for 2024 will be in January, dates to be determined.

Sponsor: Valley of the Moon ARC

Time: 10:00 AM

Reservations required

Contact: Elizabeth Morris-Mowrey (N6LY)

Email: n6ly.emm@gmail.com

Location: Sonoma Police Station EOC room 175
1st Street West, Sonoma

This is a testing session only, we don't offer classes or cram sessions.

If you are testing for a new license, you will be required to pay a \$35 fee to the FCC, in addition to the fee below. Once you pass the test, the FCC will send you an email with a link to pay the fee. You will need to send in payment in order to receive your license and call sign.

This does not apply to upgrades.

Candidate Requirements:

- A photo identification or (2) non-photo ID's

- FCC Registration Number
- Original and a photocopy of your current license (if licensed)
- Any original valid CSCEs and a photocopy of each
- Exam fee is \$15.00, Under 18 is \$5.00

COVID-19 Requirements

To ensure the health and safety of all applicants and examiners, for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic the following requirements also apply.

There will be no exceptions to these requirements.

- Chairs and desks will be sanitized before each session.

Why Test With Us?

Every candidate who takes an FCC examination with VOMARC is entitled to a free

year of membership in the club, regardless of whether you pass or not!

Each applicant is also provided with a welcome kit of some helpful information on how to get started on their Amateur Radio adventure.

On the Air

- **Stan (NJ6E)** has been playing with 5.8 GHz Amateur TV.
- **Sanford (N7PIB)** has worked at least 3,175 parks as part of the [Parks on the Air](#) (POTA) program.
- **Robert (KA5WSS)** made 36 QSOs during the [Phone North American QSO Party](#).
- **John (W8EWL)** erected a new vertical antenna at his QTH with plenty of radials. He plans to place another to allow for phased operation.

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

Ham Slang - 807

An 807 to an Amateur Radio operator is a beer. Is this another CW fill in? No. The reference comes from the venerable [807 vacuum tube](#). The shape of the tube somewhat resembled beer bottles in the early 20th century and thus the alternative moniker was born.



Will anyone be bringing some 807's to the club picnic on Sunday, September 17th?

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

Maker Faire Returns

[Maker Faire](#) returns to the Bay Area. The event takes place on two different weekends (October 13-15 and 20-22). Better yet, it's happening in the North Bay on Mare Island in Vallejo!

Maker Faires are a convention of DIY (Do It Yourself) enthusiasts. There is a broad spectrum of interests covered by participants including computers, robotics, 3D printing and arts and crafts. Amateur Radio has often played a part as well.



For years, Make Faire had been held in San Mateo. The last was held in 2019. A combination of COVID and organizers' financial

difficulties contributed to the ending of the event.

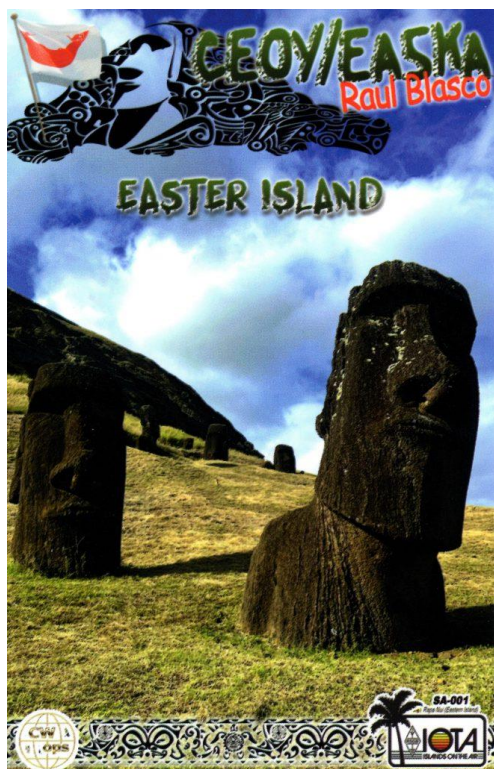
—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

Misc

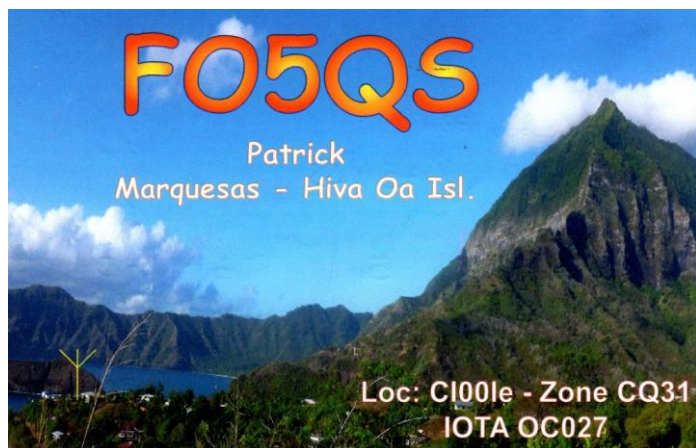
- The [Reno Ham Swap](#) takes place on Saturday, September 23rd.
- The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) has published their [2022 annual report](#).
- The ARRL is pushing back on [proposals for the use of HF spectrum near the Amateur Radio bands for stock traders](#). It gives a whole new meaning to High Frequency stock trading.
- American Hams won three medals at the [2023 Amateur Radio Direction Finding Championships](#) recently held in Czechia.
- The MIT Technology Review comments on the [beautiful complexity of the US radio spectrum](#).
- [Jumperless breadboards](#) make prototyping a breeze. Plug components into the board and then upload a list of connections. No messy wires required!
- Russian sympathisers have utilized a simple [radio hack to disrupt Polish trains causing them to perform an emergency stop](#).
- Do radio waves [disrupt the magnetic sense of migratory birds](#)?
- Ham Radio operators have been [picking up signals and decoding data from NASA's STEREO-A satellite](#) on 8.4 GHz. The satellite is near its closest position relative to Earth as it circles the Sun. So signals are particularly strong.

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

QSL Card Inbox



I worked Raul (EA5KA) during his visit to Easter Island in the Pacific Ocean where he operated as CE0Y/EA5KA. I picked up new bands on 30M and 17M, both using CW.



FO5QS resides in the Marquesas, part of French Polynesia. It counts as a separate DXCC entity due to its distance from the other Polynesian islands. I worked Pat using FT8 on 60M from my very modest home station. This is my first QSL card received from the Marquesas.

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

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VOLUME 27 EDITION 8

A PUBLICATION OF VOMARC, THE VALLEY OF THE MOON
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF

Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Robert Barron KA5WSS – President

Ed Jacobson, W1EJ – Vice President

Dave Dammuller, KD6FIL – Secretary/Treasurer

Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Radio Officer

Moe Llanes, KI6JNU – ACS Unit Leader

Elizabeth Morris-Mowrey, N6LY – VE Liaison

Darrel Jones, WD6BOR – Station Trustee for W6AJF

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Editor

Robert Barron, KA5WSS — Webmeister

“Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC.”—S. Marler

WEB PAGE: <http://www.vomarc.org/>

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

Breakfast Nets are held every Tuesday and Saturday morning at 7:30 AM on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

Eileen@vom.com

—or—

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.

C/O Sonoma Police Department

175 First Street West

Sonoma, CA 95476

ACS

NET CONTROL ASSIGNMENTS

	Name	Call
JANUARY	MOE	KI6JNU
FEBRUARY	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
MARCH	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
APRIL	JIM	K6UUW
MAY	DICK	KF6FZM
JUNE	MOE	KI6JNU
JULY		
AUGUST	BILL	KJ6EIG
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	KF6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

VOMARC

NET CONTROL ASSIGNMENTS

	Name	Call
JANUARY	ROBERT	KA5WSS
FEBRUARY	DARREL	WD6BOR
MARCH	MOE	KI6JNU
APRIL	DAVE	KD6FIL
MAY	ED	W1EJ
JUNE	FRANK	KG6N
JULY	ED	W1EJ
AUGUST	CARL	N6TTV
SEPTEMBER	ED	W1EJ
OCTOBER	JOHN	W8EWL
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP 2023

Membership Dues: \$15/year individual; \$5/year family member at same address.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC Membership: Complimentary with Class—Date: _____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen:

Dues may be mailed to VOMARC in care of the Sonoma Police Department, 175 1st St West, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC**.